

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remain of the position that patentable subject matter is present. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Claims 1-38 had been examined, and Claims 1-30, 37 and 38 had been allowed. Claims 32 and 36 had been objected to and had been indicated as allowable in rewritten in independent form. Claims 31 and 33-34 had been rejected based on prior art.

Claim 31 has been amended herein to add the limitation of Claim 32 and Claim 32 has been cancelled. Claim 34 has been amended herein to add the limitation of Claim 36 and Claim 36 has been cancelled. Thus, Claims 31 and 34 are deemed allowable. Likewise, because Claim 33 is dependent upon Claim 31 and Claim 35 is dependent upon Claim 34, it is deemed that Claims 33 and 35 are also allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims that

are pending in this case, namely, Claims 1-31, 33-35 and 37 and 38 are allowable over the prior art.

Claim 33 had been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, for failing to have proper antecedent basis for "said bottom section". Claim 33 is dependent upon Claim 31 and Claim 31 has been amended to add antecedent basis for "said bottom section".

Claim 31 had been rejected based on a non-statutory double patenting rejection. Claim 31 has been amended herein to add the limitations of Claim 32. Respectfully, Claim 31 is no longer in need of a Terminal Disclaimer.

Claims 31, 34 and 35 had been rejected as being unpatentable over Philip ('928) in view of Philip ('014). In light of the amendments made to Claims 31 and 34, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 31 and 34 are allowable over these combined references. Also, given the fact that Claim 35 is dependent upon amended Claim 34, that Claim 35 is also allowable over the combination of the two Philip references.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this Application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,

MUSERLIAN, LUCAS AND MERCANTI, LLP

By: Donald C. Lucas
Donald C. Lucas
Attorney for Applicant(s)
475 Park Avenue South
New York, New York
Tel. # 212-661-8000

DCL/mr

Encl: Return receipt post-card